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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/599,105

09/19/2006

Toshitaka Shimomura

MEIP127862

4197

26389

7590

08/18/2008

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SUITE 2800

SEATTLE, WA 98101-2347

EXAMINER

COLLINS, DARRYL J

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2873

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

08/18/2008

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/599,105	Applicant(s) SHIMOMURA ET AL.	
	Examiner DARRYL J. COLLINS	Art Unit 2873	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,6 and 19-29 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 6 and 25 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,19,23,24 and 26 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 20-22 and 27-29 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 19 September 2006 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____. | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1, 2 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by (U.S. Patent Number 6,856,466).

Tocci teaches a telecentric optical system having a first lens (Figure 3, element 52) and an aperture (Figure 3, element 54) located at a focal position of the first lens (Figure 3) and at least a second lens (Figure 3, element 56) interposed between the aperture and a photoreceptor (Figure 3, element 86, column 8, line 43), wherein the second lens is made identical to the first lens and is situated reversely (Figure 3) as claimed in independent claims 1 and 19 and dependent claim 2.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

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Claims 23, 24 and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tocci (U.S. Patent Number 6,856,466).

Although Tocci teaches all of the claimed limitations of the instant invention as outlined above with respect to claims 1, 2 and 19, Tocci fails to explicitly teach an aperture formed as an oblong slit in a direction perpendicular to an axis of measurement. However, Tocci does teach a rectangular field stop (column 4, line 46) wherein the stop is rotatable such that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to rotatably position the rectangular stop as taught by Tocci such that the oblong slit is oriented perpendicular to an axis of measurement to produce the desired input for the photoreceptor.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 6 and 25 are allowed.

Claims 20-22 and 27-29 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: The prior art taken either singularly or in combination fails to anticipate or fairly suggest the limitations of the independent claims, in such a manner that a rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102 or §103 would be proper. Although the prior art teaches a telecentric optical system having a first lens and an aperture located at a focal position of the first lens and at least a second lens interposed between the aperture and a photoreceptor, wherein the second lens is made identical to the first lens and is situated reversely, the prior art fails to teach such an optical system further

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comprising a second telecentric optical system including a second aperture and third and fourth lenses interposed between the second lens and the photoreceptor as claimed in independent claim 6, nor such an optical system wherein each of the two lenses are ball lenses, GRIN lenses or drum lenses as claimed in dependent claims 20-22, respectively.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Ford et al (U.S. Patent Number 5,900,983), Ansley et al (U.S. Patent Number 7,038,776) and Shimomura et al (U.S. Patent Publication 2007/0018084) all teach telecentric optical systems.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to DARRYL J. COLLINS whose telephone number is (571)272-2325. The examiner can normally be reached on 6:30 - 5:00 Monday - Thursday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ricky Mack can be reached on 571-272-2333. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Darryl J. Collins/
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2873

14 August 2008